



STATE OF CALIFORNIA CALIFORNIA SENIOR LEGISLATURE

1020 N Street, Room 527, Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone (916) 767-4382

www.4csl.org

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The California Senior Legislature Announces Top Legislative Priorities for 2026

(Sacramento, CA) The California Senior Legislature (CSL) adjourned its 45th Annual Legislative Session and announced the Top State Legislative Proposals this week. Members will advocate diligently during the 2026 legislative session to have state lawmakers support these priorities. Each priority has the Governor's Master Plan for Aging (MPA) goal referenced.

The following were listed as the top ten State Legislative proposals:

SP-1: Medi-Cal Personal Needs

(Senior Senator Helen Lopez, El Centro, CA) MPA Goal # 2

This measure would increase the personal needs allowance from \$35 to \$50 per month and require that the amount be increased annually up to the amount of any cost-of-living adjustment implemented by the United States Social Security Administration.

AP-1: Caregiving Grandparents: Handbook

(Senior Assembly Member Mark Cox, El Centro, CA) MPA Goal # 5

This measure requests that the California Department of Aging and State Department of Social Services provide a bilingual handbook, modeled after the county of San Diego Handbook for grandparents raising grandchildren and other relative caregivers, that provides relative information and resources on the caregiving of dependent children for Child Welfare Agencies, County Area Agencies on Aging and caregiving grandparents.

SP-2: Older Adult Education: Local Public Health Departments

(Senior Senator Steve Lipson, El Cerrito, CA) MPA Goal #3

This measure authorizes local Public Health Departments to establish older adult education programs that include, among other things, communal meals and instruction in digital literacy and access to technology, fall prevention and physical activity.

AP-8: Seniors: Fall Prevention: Lighting

(Senior Assembly Member Richard White, Vacaville, CA) MPA Goal # 2

This measure (1) requires the adoption, design, development, and implementation of a comprehensive program to support and fund the installation of improved lighting in the

homes of eligible older adults, and requires the inclusion of funding for specific lighting products that will improve visibility.

AP-2: Personal Income Tax: Senior Child Care Tax Credit

(Senior Assembly Member Mark Cox, Yucaipa, CA) MPA Goal # 5

This measure establishes an income tax credit for qualifying seniors of \$2,500 for each claimed dependent under 18 years of age.

AP-9: Area Agencies on Aging: Electronic Device Tracking

(Senior Assembly Member Richard White, Vacaville, CA) MPA Goal #3

This measure requires the Department of General Services and the Department of Technology to revise the State Administrative Manual to designate electronic devices purchased by certain local agencies as non-sensitive and non-high risk and to exempt Area Agencies on Aging from annual inventory tracking requirements.

AP-5: Senior Welfare

(Senior Assembly Member Rob Holt, Chico, CA) MPA Goal #5

This measure would create a Senior EBT Card exempting eligible seniors from state and local sales and use taxes on all purchases.

AP-3: Master Plan for Aging: Caregiving: Grandparents

(Senior Assembly Member Mark Cox, Yucaipa, CA) MPA Goal #4

This measure would require the California Department of Aging, California Health and Human Services Agency, Department of Justice, and State Department of Social Services to add an initiative to the Master Plan for Aging to address the issues and expenses associated with being a caregiving grandparent.

AP-4: Automatic External Defibrillators

(Senior Assembly Member Milissa Meyer, Indian Wells, CA) MPA Goal #2

This measure requires a senior center or community center providing activities to 50 or more people who are 55 years of age or older, to obtain and maintain an Automatic External Defibrillator.

AP-7: Food Labeling Country of Origin

(Senior Assembly Member Helen McBrady, El Cajon, CA) MPA Goal #2

This measure mandates the clear and conspicuous disclosure of the country of origin on the principal display panel of all imported or domestically packaged food products to promote transparency, traceability and consumer safety.

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CONTACT:

For additional information contact Janice Bailey, Executive Director, at (916) 767-4382 or jbailey@seniorleg.ca.gov.